

Remarks:

Changes to the Background of Invention as submitted to provide clarification of the terms “awkward and difficult”; consistency with the modifications to the drawings and claims and to provide similar terminology throughout.

Replacement Sheet

Application # 10/708,789

Invention Title: Fishing Reel Threading Tool

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Revised Detailed Description

The fishing reel threading tool (~~figure 1~~) is a handheld device ~~used to thread~~ that assists fishermen in threading fishing line through the level wind orifice (6) ~~of a~~ of level wind equipped fishing reel (~~figure 2~~).

reels. The level wind orifice is described herein as the opening in the level wind mechanism (~~figure 2~~) of level wind equipped fishing reels, that guides the fishing line on to the fishing reel spool (~~figure 2~~). The level wind orifice is an integral part of a typical level wind equipped fishing reel and is referenced to demonstrate the function of the fishing reel threading tool and is not a part thereof. The fishing reel threading tool consists of a buoyant cylindrical handle that is long enough to fit comfortably between the thumb and forefinger ~~with a~~, having a pointed fixed length flexible modified loop extending from attached to one end of the buoyant handle at an exit point (2) near the center of one end of the handle and a return point (2) in close proximity to the exit point on the same end of the handle. The pointed fixed length flexible loop is shaped loop, containing 3 discernable bends, that is able to distort to accommodate passage through the small opening of the level wind orifice. The pointed fixed length flexible loop is able to return to the original shape when fully inserted into or when removed from the level wind orifice. Hereafter, the fishing reel threading tool may be referred to as tool, the

pointed fixed length flexible loop as loop, the buoyant cylindrical handle as handle, and a level wind equipped fishing reel as a fishing reel. The tip loop (3) is defined as the triangular shaped area of the loop including the tip (4) that comprises the approximately middle one half of the total length of the loop. When the tool is fully inserted into the level wind orifice the tip loop is fully expanded to the normal shape and size allowing the fisherman to insert the end of the fishing line. When the tip loop is collapsed it closes around and helps hold onto any fishing line trapped within the collapsed tip loop area, this enables the end of fishing line to be extracted along with the loop, from the level wind orifice, either through the front or the rear of the level wind orifice, the front being the view of the level wind orifice when facing the front of the reel. The loop is flexible but rigid enough to allow the fisherman to guide the tip loop past the obstructions and passages of the fishing reel to gain full access to the tip loop and any inserted fishing line. The ability of the loop to hold and extract fishing line, within the tip loop, overcomes the challenging characteristics of fishing line including; limpness particularly with small diameter fishing line, low visibility, memory, and the characteristic of the fishing environment including, low light conditions, wind, rough water; the significant factor that the fishing reel must be attached to a fishing rod for either the fishing reel or rod to be used for the intended purpose. All of these factors in one or more combination make the process of threading fishing line through the level wind orifice awkward and difficult.

The handle and ~~flexible-modified~~ loop are made from a material or materials of adequate flexibility and strength to hold up to the fishing line extraction process. The ~~fishing-reel~~ ~~threading~~ handle provides sufficient buoyancy to allow the tool to ~~will~~ float ~~for an~~

~~adequate period of time to allow for recovery should it fall into when immersed into water. The modified loop extension has a tip designed to compress while being inserted through the small passage in the level wind orifice then expand to permit easy insertion of the end of the fishing line that is stored on the fishing reel spool. The tool is~~
lightweight and small enough to be carried in a fisherman's pocket.

Remarks:

The changes above were made to more clearly, positively and consistently describe the structure and function of fishing reel threading tool and to overcome possible rejection based upon 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent no 861,874. Since the fishing reel threading tool is neither constructed like nor used for a purpose similar to the reference patent. The changes were also made to provide for consistency in reference to components and descriptions throughout the patent submission and to more adequately explain what is included in the many references, throughout this patent submission, to the terms "awkward and difficult" which include the environmental factors, and the design factors of both the fishing line and the level wind equipped fishing reel including reference to it's purpose and use.